THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Appointments in Railways

† 1972. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the post-wise details of appointments made in the Railways during the last two years and appointments Government propose to make in the next one year;

(b) when the shortage of staff was felt in the railways;

(c) the details of division-wise demands of posts and appointments made; and

(d) the annual expenditure likely to be incurred by railways as a result of these appointments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Electrification of Belpahar

1973. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electrification of Belpahar—a Rail electrification project in Orissa, is hanging fire for years;

(b) whether Government are aware that this patch of rail line serves the Asia's largst open-cast coal mines at Basundhara area under Hemgir block and the delay has been costing a huge economic loss to the development of the area;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government are also aware that execution of this project would bring multiple benefits to Orissa's economy; and

(d) if so, the status of the project and the time by which electric traction would be completed and opened to traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) The Electrification of Jharsuguda-Bilaspur section on which Belpahar falls has already been completed including sidings.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The electrification has already completed and opened for traffic on 24.7.2002.

Missing of blankets and sheets on Patna Junction

†1374. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether clothes including blankets and sheets costing above Rs. 10 lakhs are missing from the store of Patna Junction in a mysterious way;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) From the store of Patna Junction, 500 numbers Blankets, 900 numbers Bed sheets, 800 numbers Pillow Covers and 100 numbers Big towels were found missing. The assessment of the actual loss is still going on.

(c) In this connection, GRP/Patna Junction has registered a case *vide* Crime No. 402/03 dated 27.11.2003 U/S 461/379 IPC. Apart from this, Railway administration has set-up an enquiry under the supervision of ACM/Danapur to go into the fact and circumstances of the case.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi